

The Communicator

Dec 11 - 21, 2008

Haliburton County's Good News Fun Magazine

Vol. 8 Issue 5

Winter Circulation

8,000

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ENESCO

**HEARTWOOD
CREEK**
by Jim Shore

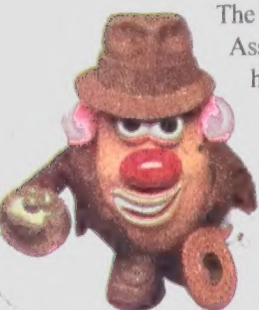
"Faith ... Hope ... Love
The greatest of these is
LOVE"

~ 1 Corinthians

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13th Annual Christmas Toy & Food Drive Continues



The 13th annual Haliburton County Home Builders Association Christmas Toy & Food Drive needs your help.

You can put a smile on someone's face this Christmas by simply giving a gift to those less fortunate this Christmas by collecting gifts or non-perishable food items.

Come up with an inventive way of collecting donations this year such as asking your Christmas party guests to bring a non-perishable food item over instead of a gift! You can collect

gifts at your place of business, with your family and with your friends – it's as easy as that! So rise to the challenge and find out why it's truly better to give than receive.

Last year, Haliburton County showed tremendous support for this initiative, making the 2007 Haliburton County Home Builders Association (HCHBA) Christmas Challenge the most successful one to date.

So get involved and help make this year's drive even bigger and better! This is a great way of helping to make sure that each family in Haliburton County has a gift under the tree and a good holiday meal to celebrate all the things that makes this season special.

For more information visit www.hchba.ca, call Aggie Tose at 705 457-2629 or email info@hchba.ca.



**You Still Have Until
Monday, Dec. 22 to
Give to Families in
Haliburton County**

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A Timeless Classic Returns to Haliburton

Heritage Ballet's
Nutcracker
Rendition at the
Northern Lights
Performing Arts
Pavilion



On Saturday, Dec. 13, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 14 in the Northern Lights Pavilion, Heritage Ballet's 5th production of E.T.A. Hoffmann's story The Nutcracker will be brought to life.

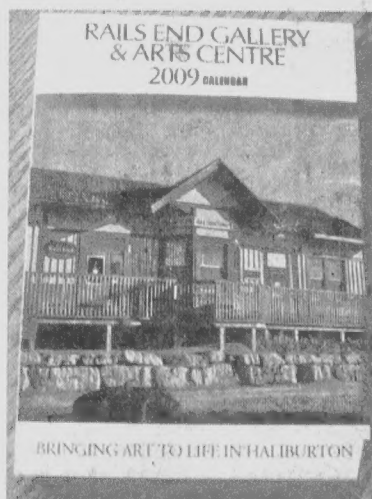
The Nutcracker is a story is about a young German girl who dreams of a Nutcracker Prince and a fierce battle against a Mouse King with seven heads.

"You can expect to see lots of dancing and amazing costumes made by Dani Smolen (The Tutu Cafe)," says Julie Barban, Director and Choreographer of the production. The dancers have been practicing diligently for their big show each and every weekend.

To find out if tickets are still available, please contact Julie Barban at 705 457-1990.

Own Memories of the Past

Rails End launches 2009 Desktop Calendar featuring local legends



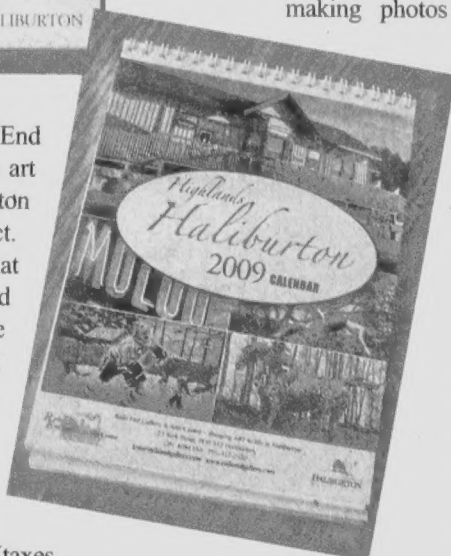
The Rails End Gallery's annual fundraiser is a convenient desktop calendar that comes in two editions for Minden and Haliburton.

The calendar's will feature local legends like the Molou marquee at night, Kawartha Dairy's cow on Hwy 35 and the Haliburton Sculpture Forest's latest edition, Kennisis, by Bill Lishman. The calendar will also include some classic memory making photos

of the County. The Rails End has managed to combine art with life in the Haliburton Highlands with this project.

This is a perfect gift that will be enjoyed year round and organizers hope the community will support the Gallery by purchasing calendars for friends, associates and family this season. The 2009 Rails End Desktop Calendar is affordable at \$8.50 (taxes

included) and is available at: Cottage Country Log Cabin, West Guilford Shopping Centre, The Art Hive, CANOE FM Radio, Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce, Haliburton County Info Centre Hwy 35, Campbell's Flowers & Gifts, Wild Orchid Bistro, Rails End Gallery & Arts Centre, Minden Health Centre Gift Shop, Headliners Minden and the Dysart et al Municipal Office.



Bid on a piece of local history at R.D. Lawrence Place Commemorative Stamp Auction

Stamp collectors have been waiting since the launch of the R.D. Lawrence Place Commemorative Stamp during the grand opening on April 22, for the crème of the collection to be auctioned. On December 12 the wait is over as the first numbered commemorative sheet hits the Ebay auction block until Dec. 17.

There were only 100 numbered commemorative sheets of these legal, Canadian letter, current value, postage stamps printed. The stamps were a popular seller and proved to be an excellent fundraiser. The printing of the first, in what will be a series of three stamps representing key figures and places within the Minden Hills Cultural Centre, was funded by the Haliburton County Development Corporation. The centre will be able to use the profits from this stamp to fund the museum's stamp next year. The auction though will directly support R.D. Lawrence Place.

On auction will be a commemorative sheet of 21 stamps featuring a blown up photograph by Jim Wuepper of Ron Lawrence and Tundra, a wolf that he rescued, at Wolf Hollow, the private wildlife sanctuary he operated in Gooderham, Haliburton County. The sheet is signed by Wuepper. It also features commissioned artwork by Donna Bisschop of a wolf and a line drawing of R.D. Lawrence Place. The package on auction will also include the numbered on commemorative sheet plus a sheet of 40 stamps, matching note card and bookmark, and an R.D. Lawrence Commemorative Anthology. These are all unique limited edition items only available at R.D. Lawrence Place.

People who can not access the internet but wish to participate in this exciting fundraising event can call Sheryl Loucks, RDLP coordinator, at 286-2298. She will organize a proxy bid for them. All of the details about how the auction will work and the stamps are on the new cultural centre website at www.mindenculturalcentre.com.

"These stamps are not only a beautiful collectors item but they are also a piece of local history. They represent Ron Lawrence, the county's most successful writer and a unique building that is arguably one of the greenest structures in Canada. These stamps will not be reproduced so it's a good investment that also helps us," says Loucks.

For further details please contact Loucks or pop by the Place in Minden to see a copy of the number one commemorative stamp sheet.



14 Days and Counting....

A Little Bit of Everything

For a neat website about nature and Christmas, check out:
www.santasreindeerschool.com

Are you looking for gifts for teachers, caregivers, or bus drivers? We have some great ideas for you. Do you need stocking stuffers? We have a wide selection for newborns to 120 year-olds. Too, we just got in a great selection of new large toys for gift giving.

Also, we carry wrapping paper, tape, gift bags, tissue, ribbon, gift tags and bows. Just about everything to finish off your gift.

For entertaining we have Christmas plates, napkins, tablecloths, and decorations. As well, for your cooking needs we have pie plates, loaf pans, roasting pans, poultry lacers and lifters. Come check us out before we are sold out of Christmas items.

Beside IGA & Home Hardware in Minden

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Merry Christmas from Debbie, Ira & Joanne

SIRCH

Spotlight

On Business

By Mark Arike

Lending a Helping Hand

SIRCH (Supportive Initiative for Residents in the County of Haliburton) Community Services and Consulting delivers many needed programs to residents in the county that fill in the gaps in areas of social and health services.

Since first launching in 1989, the not-for-profit organization has managed to deliver over 20 programs and services to the county, conduct consultations across Ontario, train thousands of people and create dozens of manuals, kits, games and other innovative resource programs.

Back when SIRCH was first incorporated, the organization began by offering 'Parent Support Services', a program that provided counselling, support and advocacy to parents of children up to the age of 18.

Today, the organization has grown to include programs that run the gamut of services imaginable. Two of SIRCH's major specialties of service include Community Hospice and the Bright Starts CAPC/CPNP programs.

With the Community Hospice program, trained volunteers provide support to those with a life-threatening illness, families of palliative clients and those affected by Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

For young children, School's Cool is one of SIRCH's nationally recognized initiatives that is designed to prepare 3-5 year olds for the classroom by



encouraging language and phonological awareness, social skills, problem solving and self-help skills. The classes are led by trained School's Cool instructors and the program fits under the Bright Starts - CAPC/CPNP programming. Currently, there are over 50 School's Cool programs in Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia.

These are just two examples of how SIRCH is continually able to extend helping hands into the community to those who need it the most.

Most recently, SIRCH employees have taken it upon themselves to address the pressing issue of poverty in the county with the "Chef-of-the-Month" challenge.

SIRCH's main intent with the project is to raise awareness

of food insecurity.

In the challenge, local area chefs are invited to try and make a day's worth of nutritionally balanced meals for a family of four on only \$6.50 at Bob and Wendy's Foodland in Haliburton. The challenge began this past October and to date, none of the chefs have been able to stay within that budget.

Nancy Brownsberger, Social Marketer for SIRCH and Coordinator of Chef-of-the-Month, wants the public to understand why there is a need to have programs in place that aid those struggling to make ends meet.

"There are families in the community that only have \$6.50 for food after paying expenses like rent, hydro and heat," explained Brownsberger. "With

the challenge we've been proving that these families cannot afford to eat healthfully within that budget. We want the community to become involved and engaged and that's why we are doing the Chef-of-the-Month program."

The next upcoming Chef-of-the-Month will be Monty Miscio of The Bonnie View Inn on Wednesday, Dec 17 at 11 a.m.

It's because of these and many other programs that SIRCH is able to provide reliable support and effective resources to those in the community.

"The common thread in all that SIRCH does is a philosophy that focuses on strengths and competencies (of children, parents, communities and organizations) and the belief that

The Highlands Communicator

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A Division of the County Voice Inc.



100% Locally Owned
& Operated

Published by: Brett & Joanne Irvine

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SIRCH cont'd., pg. 5...

SIRCH Provides Support and Services to Individuals and Families On An Ongoing Basis

... from pg. 4

there are always options and solutions – sometimes you just have to think outside of the box.”

For more information about the services that SIRCH provides, visit their website at www.sirch.on.ca or call their Haliburton office at 705 457-1742.

SIRCH's Newest Additions

Over the last few months, three new employees were brought on-board to join the SIRCH team. Each plays a key role in the organization and all are proud to serve the community in their different roles.

Recently, The Highlands Communicator conducted interviews with each of these new SIRCH employees. So without further adieu, please welcome Nancy Brownsberger, Lynn Higgs Thompson and Marg Hockley!

Nancy Brownsberger, Social Marketer

Nancy came to SIRCH in September to take on a brand new full-time position as Social Marketer for the organization.

“I first applied for the position of palliative coordinator,” said Brownsberger of how she approached SIRCH. “I did well in that interview but I didn’t have the experience for that position. Gena Robertson, SIRCH’s Executive Director, eventually called me up and said a new position was opening up. Are you interested?”

Brownsberger’s academic credentials include a social work diploma from Seneca College and a Bachelor of Arts degree (double major) in sociology and women’s studies from the University of Guelph.

Thanks to her sister, Joanne Bishop, who is Vice President of Patient News, Brownsberger moved to the area 9 years ago.

“She fell in love with a local man and coerced me to come up,” said Brownsberger.

Because of SIRCH’s reputation in the community and the good work they carry out, Brownsberger was drawn to the organization.

“Its values are similar to what my values are as a professional,” she explained. “Providing services for our community and helping others is what it’s all about and ultimately I can’t get away from social work – it’s a part of who I am.”

As social marketer, spreading the word about SIRCH programming is a big part of what Brownsberger does.

“This position involves the coordination of some projects such as Chef-of-the-Month, marketing and recruiting volunteers for programs like the Community Kitchen,” she said.

Brownsberger currently resides on Eagle Lake with her husband Jon and two children.

Lynn Higgs Thompson, Hospice/Alzheimer’s Client Services Coordinator

On September 2, Higgs Thompson took over this already existing permanent position from Dorothy Owens.

In her position, some of the responsibilities she carries out include the coordination of hospice services and the delivery of Alzheimer support programs to those in Haliburton County. She works alongside Linda May-Powers, Hospice Client Services Coordinator.

Higgs Thompson is also excited to be involved with an initiative that is new to SIRCH.

“We’re starting the ‘First Link’ program which is designed to support and provide resources to those who have been diagnosed with Alzheimer’s or any kind of dementia.

Higgs Thompson possesses a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from McMaster University and she also has certificates in Personal Support Work and Gerontology.

Prior to joining SIRCH she worked with the VON Adult Day program for seven years. That job actually helped lead her to her current role with SIRCH.

“When I worked with VON, we were somewhat of a partner with SIRCH. They’d refer people to our program and I’d refer people to their program. So I was familiar with what SIRCH did and

I knew that Dorothy Owens was retiring,” she said.

As for her long-term plan, Higgs Thompson plans on staying at SIRCH until retirement.

“I really enjoy what I do. These are much needed areas of service in the county, especially because we such a high senior population.”

Lynn moved to the county in 1990 with her husband and two children.

Marg Hockley, Executive Assistant

Marg Hockley also came to SIRCH in the month of September into a contract position as Executive Assistant.

In her work background, Hockley has had extensive involvement in several administrative capacities.

“I worked at Georgian College for 16 years as a support staff worker,” said Hockley of her job prior to joining SIRCH. She also received some of her education from the college with several courses in the Ontario Management Development program.

Hockley decided to permanently move to Haliburton County after falling in the love with area as a cottager.

She discovered the position available at SIRCH because it was advertised through the local media.

Some of Hockley’s duties at SIRCH include reception and providing clerical support to other staff members and most of what she does reminds her of familiar territory.

“I’m using the same skills I’ve always used but the content is different,” she said. “It’s different than the college so there’s going to be lots of opportunity to learn!”

Thus far, Hockley has really taken a liking to the work atmosphere at SIRCH.

“It’s a really upbeat place to work in,” she said.

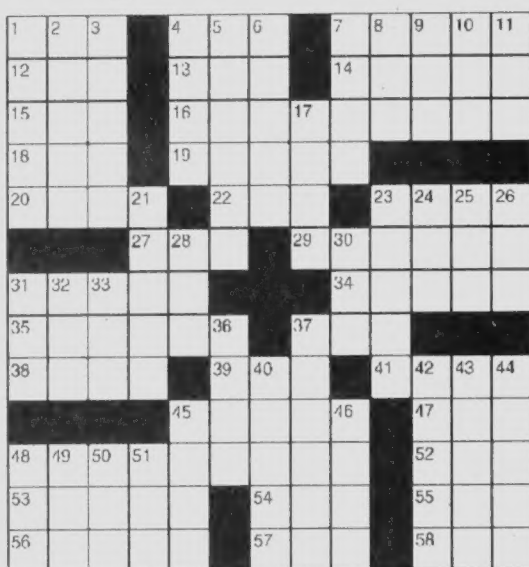
Hockley currently resides in Fort Irwin with her husband Bob.



King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Poke
- 4 Aries
- 7 Sick and tired
- 12 Carte lead-in
- 13 "— lazy river ..."
- 14 Draft in an apartment?
- 15 Hobbyist's abbr.
- 16 Robin's nickname
- 18 Swelled head
- 19 Nudge
- 20 Ignore rudely
- 22 Writer
- 23 Bar
- 27 Discoverer's cry
- 29 Painting on plaster
- 31 Corn
- 34 "Uh-oh!"
- 35 Soak up
- 37 Plead
- 38 Water barriers
- 39 End of a school's URL
- 41 Durante trademark
- 45 Grab
- 47 Hostel
- 48 1943
- Rooney/Garland musical
- 52 Cover
- 53 Farewell
- 54 Born



- | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 55 Tokyo's old name | 9 Pop | 37 Flew very close to |
| 56 DSL device | 10 Work with | 40 Prince |
| 57 Do sums | 11 Apiece | William's |
| 58 Morning moisture | 17 "Bow-wow!" | mum |
| | 21 Incompetent sorts | 42 Lubricated |
| | 23 Hold the scepter | 43 Insinuating |
| | 24 Cleo's slitherer | 44 Be |
| | 25 Rocks | philanthropic to |
| | 26 Section of L.A.? | 45 Pond-surface matter |
| | 28 That girl | 46 Ogled |
| | 30 Bread grain | 48 Shapely leg (Sl.) |
| | 31 Frenzied | 49 Berlin's "What'll —?" |
| | 32 Lawyers' org. | 50 Disencumber |
| | 33 Doctrine | 51 Shelter |
| | 36 "Cheers" order | |

DOWN

- 1 Green gemstones
- 2 Straighten
- 3 Ronstadt's "Blue —"
- 4 Hayseed
- 5 Moon mission name
- 6 Perhaps
- 7 Circulate
- 8 Still, in verse



Man asks police for demonstration

R.C. Gaitlin, 21, walked up to two patrol officers who were showing their squad car computer to children in a Detroit neighborhood. When he asked how the system worked, the officers asked him for a piece of identification to use for demonstration purposes. Gaitlin gave them his driver's license. They entered it into the computer and moments later arrested Gaitlin because information on the screen showed he was wanted for a two year-old armed robbery in St. Louis.

Careless shoplifter

A Washington D.C. crook went into a department store to try on a pair of pants. He liked the pants so much he stole the pants, a shirt, a watch and \$100 from the clerk. Unfortunately, he ran out without his wallet, which he'd put on a shelf while he tried on the pants. The wallet contained a photo of the crook, along with his name and address.

Woman drives on runway

A Florida woman was charged with driving while intoxicated and trespassing after she drove through a gate at Tampa International Airport an onto an active runway. A Boeing 737, in the process of taking off, had to move to the side of the runway to avoid hitting the car. The woman told police she became upset after fighting with her boyfriend.

Do not let what you cannot do
interfere with what you can do.

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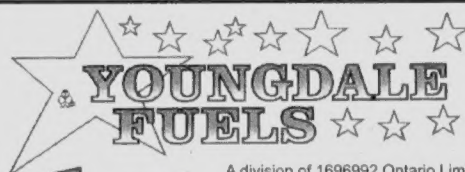
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Church Events

**For Those Dealing With Hardships During the Holiday Season...
Service at St. Paul's Anglican Church Will Help You this
Christmas**

Blue? Yes, blue as in the blues. As in "I am feeling blue."

Not everyone is up and cheery for the Christmas holidays. Dealing with the death of a loved one, facing life after divorce or separation, coping with the loss of a job, living with cancer or some other disease that puts a question mark over the future, and a number of other human situations make parties and joviality painful for many people in our congregations and communities.

On Wednesday, Dec. 17, join Rev. Riscylla Shaw for a "Blue Christmas" service at St. Paul's Anglican Church in Minden at 7:00 p.m.

There is a growing attentiveness to the needs of people who are blue at Christmas. That's why those at St. Paul's Anglican Church are creating a sacred space for people living through dark times.

This service will be reflective, accepting where we really are, and holding out healing and hope. This service is free and is open to the whole as a whole.

For more information contact Riscylla Shaw at 705 286-1817.

Christmas Ceremonies

The Zion United Church in Carnarvon, the Minden United Church and the Maple Lake United Church will also be holding ceremonies to honour the birth of Christ on Wednesday, Dec. 24.

The Zion United Church will hold their mass at 3:00 p.m., the Minden United Church will have theirs at 7:00 p.m., and the ceremony at Maple Lake United Church will start at 9:00 p.m.

For more information about these ceremonies contact Diane Welborn by phone at 705 28-1470.

Celebrating the Birth of Christ

**Christmas Mass at St. Paul's Anglican Church on Wednesday,
Dec. 24**

Christmas is an annual holiday celebrated every December 25th when people enjoy feasting on all of the traditional fixings and opening the presents from under the tree.

But what shouldn't be forgotten about on this date is the birth of Jesus Christ, the central figure of Christianity.

Come and join St. Paul's Anglican Church in Minden on Wednesday, Dec. 24, with services at 4 p.m. and 11 p.m. Those in attendance can expect a traditional Christmas mass with Rev. Riscylla Shaw.

St. Paul's Anglican Church is located on the Gull River in Minden, opposite The Beer Store at 19 Invergordon St. For more information call the church office at 705 286-2541.

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Can Monty Miscio Make a Nutritionally Balanced Meal On Only \$6.50 for a Family of Four?



Having a healthy, balanced diet is crucial for ensuring that a child reaches their maximum growth potential physically, mentally and socially. For some families, providing some of these basic necessities can be a struggle.

That's why SIRCH Community Services and Consulting issued a challenge to local area chefs this past summer to make meals for

a family of four for a day on a budget of only \$6.50 with their new "Chef-of-the-Month" program. Chef of the Month is part of SIRCH's

Healthy Children CAPC/CPNP program.

The challenge first began with Franka Andriano, owner of Franka's Cafe & Catering in October, and in November Aaron Walker of The Grill on the Gull came to Foodland for his time in the spotlight.

The next chef to step up to the plate will be Monte Miscio of The Bonnie View Inn on Wednesday, Dec. 17 at Foodland in Haliburton. Miscio will present his recipe that shows you just how to utilize those Christmas leftovers.

To encourage the public's attendance, there will be a raffle for a gift basket (donated by Wintergreen Pancake Barn), free giveaways for Ziploc tupperware, a presentation on a 'Healthy Eating Budget' (created by Deanne Pegler) and Canoe FM will be on-site with a live feed from the event.

According to SIRCH, many parents with young children have incomes of less than \$18,000/year. That means they often have less than \$200/month to feed a family of four after paying expenses like rent, hydro and heat.

Statistics indicate that a large number of families face in the county face a challenge when it comes to healthy eating. According to a study in 2000 by Statistics Canada, 26 per cent of families with children ages 0-6 in Haliburton County live in poverty. A family of four in Haliburton County is living in poverty if they earn \$26,015 or less per year, according to Building Better Outcomes for Children in Haliburton County.

Children who are malnourished could be at risk because inadequate nutrition affects brain development and learning.

Each meal or snack in the Chef of the Month challenge must be healthy and nutritionally complete and must be prepared in a 1.5 hour time frame. This process includes; the purchasing of the food, a demonstration, an explanation of what the food is, its nutritional value, why it was chosen and an explanation as to whether or not the chef stayed within their \$6.50 budget. In addition, families get to taste-test the final product and a question period is provided to families regarding the meal.

An accounting cost of each recipe and meal plan along with the recipe are being published by The County Voice and by SIRCH. Once a year, SIRCH will combine all the menus and recipes into a cookbook called "Healthy Children Cookbook: Featuring the Chefs of Haliburton County."

For more information on this insightful and exciting challenge, contact Nancy Brownsberger at SIRCH at 705 457-1742 extension 21.

LADIES!

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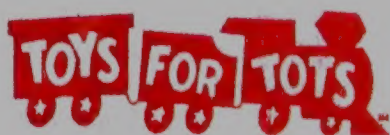
Minden Hosts Food and Toy Drive

Help put smiles on families faces this Christmas by participating in Minden's food and toy drive.

On Tuesday, Dec. 16 at 7:00 p.m. members of the Minden Hills Fire Department will be going door-to-door to collect non-perishable in the Village of Minden.

Non-perishable food items and unwrapped toys may also be dropped off at the Township fire hall, but make sure to first call 705 286-1202.

For more information please contact Doug Schell, Fire Chief, at 705 286-1202.



Situated in Marsden Bay in South Shields in the UK on one of the most attractive stretches of the North East coastline. It is unique as being the only "cave bar" in Europe.

The Grotto is partly dug into the cliff face and fronted with a more conventional building opening onto the beach. Now owned by Heritage Inns and Lodges. The Marsden Grotto offers a fantastic Seafood Restaurant and Bistro.

Ghost Stories

Scary Tales

The Marsden Grotto Pub

A gruesome incident occurred in the 18th century. Threatened by a colleague, a smuggler (who using a cavern in the cliff as a base) imprisoned the would be traitor in a tub suspended from the roof of the cavern, where he died. His wails can be heard to this day by some who venture down the cliff lift to visit the pub below.



The Marsden Grotto, a former Smugglers Cove in the early 17th Century is still said to be haunted by one of it's earliest patrons. You may hear John the Jibber's moans and groans after he died a slow death after betraying fellow smugglers.

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65 Years and Counting

By Mark Arike

Myria and Clifford Stoughton Have a Bond That Can't Be Broken

Monday, Nov. 1, 2008, marked the 65th year that Myria (81) and Clifford Stoughton (82) of Gooderham have been married. After listening to their story it's clear to see why their strong and blissful relationship is one that's been able to withstand the test of time.

Recently, the couple, joined by their daughter Joan, sat down with The Highlands Communicator at their home to rekindle old memories and reveal some of their secrets to having a long, successful marriage.

One of the reasons that Myria and Clifford first became acquainted with one another was partly due to their family's ties.

"There was a sawmill past her (Myria) parents farm and when I was 15, I went down to work there," explained Clifford. "Myria had to come out here to go to school because her school in Cavendish was closed, so that brought us

closer together. Our parents also knew each other."



So just what was it about Myria that made Clifford pursue her?

"I've got to be truthful," he began. "She was tiny and good-looking and you know how the old saying goes, 'I wouldn't have had her if she hadn't been good-looking!'"

After deciding that they wanted to be more than just friends, the two tied the knot in Bobcaygeon on November 1, 1943 at the local Anglican Church. At the time, Clifford was 17 and Myria was 16 (there is only a six month age difference between the two).

In their early years of marriage, Clifford worked at Hunter's Lumber in Gooderham and he eventually opened up his own barbershop and poolroom that he operated on evenings and weekends. He was born and raised in Gooderham and he's never lived outside of the area.

Not only did Myria work hard at raising their four children, Sharon, Wayne, Joan and Boyd, but she was also employed through various odd jobs.

"She ran the school bus, kept books for Stoughton Electric and sold fishing lures when they dealt with live bait," noted her daughter Joan. "She would do almost anything to make a buck!"

Clifford was the man responsible for starting up Stoughton Electric, a local business that is still being run to this day by their son Wayne. He also had another business venture with a partner that involved the buying and selling of land known as Stoughton and Hunter Holdings Limited.

Since Clifford closed up that barbershop business, the couple has lived in a prominent red brick home that is in the heart of Gooderham. They chose the building because of its close proximity to everything and at times they even worked out of the home.

"We had Stoughton Electric here until Wayne took it over and then the business went into his house," said Clifford.

Over the years, the couple says that they've seen firsthand how the town of Gooderham has changed.

"A lot of building has gone on, the lakes have just filled right up" said Clifford. "I think that one of the only things that have gone down in Gooderham is the number of gas stations. At one time we had four gas stations and now there's only one."

Today, all of their children still live in the area, except for Boyd who resides in Port Carling. Their family also includes seven grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren and one great, great grandchild.

Stoughton cont'd... pg. 11...

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Myria and Clifford Stoughton Cont'd...

... from pg. 10



Both Myria and Clifford agree that they have been extremely fortunate in their lives and neither have any complaints to address.

"I think that to be married this long and to be in as good a shape as we are

health-wise, you can't wish for much for," said Clifford. "I've had great opportunities throughout my life and we've had a happy family that hasn't caused us any trouble."

And though the couple is retired, they have found ways of keeping themselves busy.

"We have a nice big place down on Salmon Lake Rd. that's on 125 acres. It's an all-log building and we use it for everything," said Clifford.

The couple uses this retreat as a venue for family gatherings, for hunting, and it's where they also produce their own maple syrup. Their three hounds guard the property.

For those who are looking to have as strong of a marriage as Myria and Clifford's the couple has some pointers.

"Make sure to keep your mouth shut at the right time," joked Myria, while Clifford added, "You know how the old saying goes, 'whoever comes home from drinking, don't say nothing then, say it later!'"

All joking aside, Clifford does believe in the importance of a few key strategies to maintaining a healthy and successful marriage.

"I think that working together is a big thing in getting along," he said. "Maybe a lot of people fight when they're together, but Myria and I never did."

He also indicates that compatibility needs to be evident shortly after the first encounter.

"You've got to be compatible right from the beginning. One of the similar interests that Myria and I shared has been country living. We like doing everything outdoors together. Ice fishing or anything else, you name it we did it!"



Christmas at the Ontario Early Years Centre

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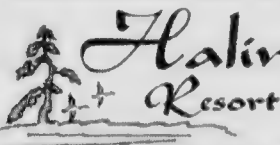
Families and their kids can look forward to a morning of Christmas fun on Wednesday, Dec. 17 at 10 a.m. at the Ontario Early Years Centres (OEYC) in Minden and Haliburton.

There will be plenty of crafts and carol singing for everyone to take part in. A potluck lunch will keep everyone from going hungry and gingerbread decorating will bring out everyone's creative sides.

Santa will also visit so please bring a wrapped book with your child's name on it to the party. Also make sure to bring your favourite potluck dish to share with friends.

Please sign-up in advance or phone the Haliburton OEYC at 705 457-2989 or the Minden OEYC at 705 286-1770.

Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless.



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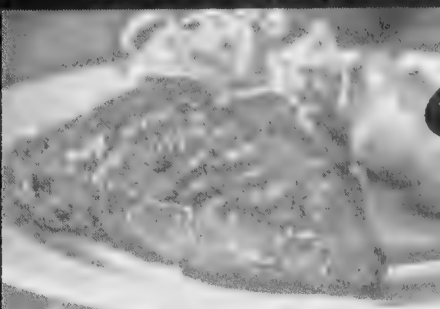
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New Business

Introducing ...

by George Farrell

A first and second-hand store is now open in Minden. A lot of the merchandise to be found inside consists of donated clothing, toys, kitchenware, and small working appliance etc, but some of the goods are new; purchased through liquidators and other sources.

The owners of the store are Brent Cartwright and Judy Casteels. The couple moved to the Highlands from Calgary in June. It might seem like a long way from Calgary to Minden, but Judy was familiar with the area from her days working at the Wigamog, in 1974-75. The couple who had been in Calgary for 10 years, wanted to move back east to be closer to Judy's parents, who live in Port Perry, so they went on the internet to see what they could find. What they found was the Stone House, north of Minden on highway 35. Phyllis Haworth operated it for years as a B&B. Phyllis is still living there, and the arrangement is that Brent and Judy will live there too, while taking over half of the 20 acres, and five cabins. The idea in the future is to return the property to its former glory as a B&B.

The couple is very enterprising and the First & Second Hand Store

The First & Second Hand Store

was opened because Judy saw the need for such a service in the community. She has been a social worker for 25 years, and she's presently in a contract position as a social worker for the Community Care Access Centre. Brent, who works in construction, was employed by the Township of Minden Hills as a landscaper, this past summer. He's laid

off right now, which will give him time to work at the store putting in shelving, and also going to auctions. "He'll be running the store at first, with the help of volunteers," Judy explained.

The concept for the store is an interesting one. It will be a for-profit business, working with the charitable sector. The idea is also to divert many useful items that end up on land fill sites, and to give back to the community 15 percent to 20 percent of monies above and beyond operational costs. People who bring in bags of used clothing can donate it or accept \$3 per bag of desirable items. People who bring items into

the store will have their names go into a draw to win a two-night stay at the Stone House Resort. Ultimately the store will be run by a combination of part-time paid employees, and volunteers.

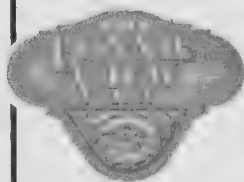
Judy has done her homework and she quickly identified the Minden Food Bank as an organization they can work with and donate to. "They're established and have a good reputation," claimed Judy. "Nutrition for kids and seniors is very important. When I was in Calgary I helped develop breakfast and lunch programmes, so I know how important it is to eat the proper food groups."

On Monday Dec. 1st the store had just opened its doors for business, and one of the first persons through the portals was Andrew Rutledge, from Minden. "I think it's going to work out really well, because it's something this community really needs, for people in need," he said. "Today I bought some shoes in, and I'm bringing some clothes down too. I'm also going to volunteer in the store."

Second Hand cont'd... pg. 13...



Great Food! Great Service! Great Place!



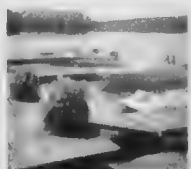
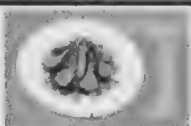
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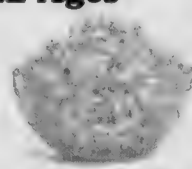
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The First & Second Hand Store Much Needed Addition To Community

... from pg. 12



Also there for the opening was Barbara Walford-Davis, Chairperson of the Minden Food Bank Board. "We're going to be part of the program, and we'll be the recipients of donations. The food bank covers such a large area; Norland to Dorset, part of Dysart, Kinmount and Algonquin Highlands. We also contribute food to Wilberforce and Cardiff. There are a lot of people in the county who are on welfare and disability, so this is going to be a big help to them, as well as the rest of the community."

"Because we'll have new and used items we hope to draw from a cross-section of people," said store owner Judy Casteels. "If we do well enough, John Cooper, who owns the building, may let us expand and use the other side of the ground floor for bigger furniture. We'll see how things are in January, and go from there. For us the measure of success will be how much we can donate back to the community."

The First & Second Hand Store is located at 150 Main Street (Bobcaygeon Rd) Minden, just over the bridge. For now, store hours are from Monday to Thursday 11:00 am to 6:00 pm, Friday 11:00 am to 9:00 pm, Saturday and Sunday 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. To find out more information about how you can donate or volunteer, call Brent or Judy at (705) 286-6441. Please, no dumping at the door.



"I do a whole lot of traveling, and have always done this when I go out of town. I try to use up as much food as possible before I leave, but I also freeze what I can in order to reduce the amount of food I waste. I put a few ice cubes in a tied plastic bag and put it on the shelf of the freezer when I leave. If I come back to one large ice blob, I know that the power has been out for a substantial amount of time while I was gone. Then I know that the stuff in the freezer/refrigerator has to go." -- H.A. in Ontario, Canada

Here's a wonderful tip from the Insurance Information Institute: Keep your tool shed locked. You might not be worried about losing that old shovel, ladder or set of screwdrivers,

but you might be worried if someone uses them to break into your house. Lock it up for safety.

If you have smelly shoes, here is a "stocking stuffer" to try: Take the foot portion of an old pair of pantyhose. Fill it with tea leaves and stuff it into the shoe. Leave for a couple of days. It should soak up the smell. You can also use kitty litter or charcoal, but I find that the tea leaves leave a pleasant scent behind.

"I love patent-leather shoes for the kids. To make them shine (and to keep them from cracking), I give them a good buff with plain old petroleum jelly. It's cheap and works perfectly." -- O.C. in Wisconsin

When making cookies that are dropped by teaspoon, dip your spoon in milk before collecting the batter. It won't affect the taste or the way it cooks, but it makes it much easier to get a true teaspoon for even-sized cookies.

Limited time offer. \$50 OFF ACTIVATION BONUS

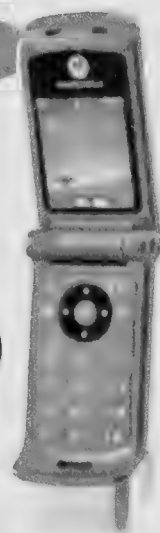
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Get Licensed for Sledding Haliburton County Snowmobile Association Hosts Driver Training Course

To legally operate a snowmobile off your own property, you must be properly licensed. This isn't a problem for those over the age of 16 who have a valid driver's license, but for young people aged 12-15, it's a requirement to successfully complete a driver training course approved by the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario.

Adults who do not have a valid driver's license may also take the course. The cost of this course is \$36 and includes all materials, crest, license holder and lunch. Participants will be taught safe handling and operation of snow vehicles, all aspects of the Motorized Snow Vehicle Act, proper etiquette, winter survival and appropriate environmental actions.

Once the candidates have successfully completed the course they are licensed to drive a snowmobile on OFSC trails throughout Ontario. Candidates must be 12 years of age on the course date and require proof of age by way of birth certificate accompanied with the registration form. The MTO requires that all participants pre-register.

An opportunity to take the course is coming up on Saturday, Dec. 13 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Haliburton County Snowmobile Association clubhouse in Haliburton.

To learn more please call 705 457-4263 or email a.chvedukas@hotmail.com. To learn more about the HCSA visit their web site at www.hcsa.on.ca.



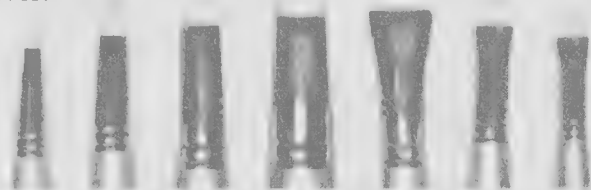
New Members Show at Cultural Centre Visitors Welcome for Opening Reception and Cider

Members of the Minden Hills Cultural Centre are invited to show-off their visual arts talents in a non-juried show. This show will run from Dec. 2 - 20.

Members interested in entering the show must follow guidelines and the curator does have the right to deny work entered. Entry forms for the show, membership applications and all the rules can be downloaded off the Cultural Centre website at www.mindenhillsculturalcentre.com or picked up at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery. Members will receive the form and rules in their newsletter.

Winners of the show will receive free memberships to the centre for the following years. Visitors are asked to come to the opening reception and enjoy some holiday cheer and mulled cider.

For more information you can also contact Laurie Carmount at 705 286-3763.

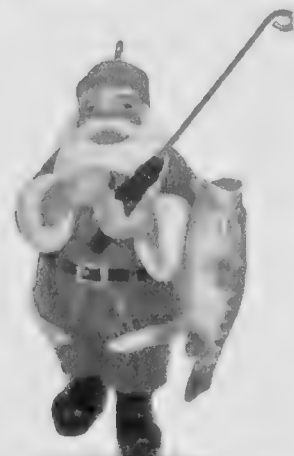


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Browse Fabulous Jewellery and Sample Famous Fruitcake...

The Linkert Country Bakery Teams Up with Fifth Avenue Jewellery Collection for Open House Fundraiser

Come see some of the finest jewellery from the Fifth Avenue Collection while you help fund-raise for Haiti Missions of Canada. What exactly is this event you might ask?

It's an open house at the Linkert Country Bakery and it's being held on the weekend of Saturday, Dec. 13 – Sunday, Dec. 14 and again on Saturday, Dec. 20 – Sunday, Dec. 21, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Drop by and you'll be able to browse and purchase some beautiful pieces including: chains, neck pieces, pins, bracelets and rings. You'll also be able to taste test some of the famous traditional Linkert fruitcake and many other goodies.

This event is a joint venture between Lynda Wootton, Janet Barker of Linkert Country Bakery and the Fifth Avenue Jewellery Collection.

Since Wootton and Barker have known others who have gone on mission trips in Haiti, they decided to set-up this fundraiser for Haiti Missions of Canada.

So make to show your support for this worthy cause and drop by Linkert Country Bakery located on Hwy 648, 1.5 miles northeast of Wilberforce.

About Love Haiti Missions

The goal of Love Haiti Missions is to give a hand up to the Haitian people who are the poorest in the Western Hemisphere. While in Haiti, the group shares with them the Gospel of Jesus Christ and demonstrates compassion in a physical way.

The Love Haiti vision is to: "Rescue, Restore and edify" the people of Haiti by offering humanitarian aid, spreading the message of revival and encouraging them to believe for their miracle "that the island of Haiti will be transformed."

For more information about the group please visit www.lovehaiti.com.

The History of the Linkert Country Bakery

Over seventy years ago, a young teenager from a well-known baking family in Hamilton, Canada, began experimenting in his mother's kitchen.

The family now laughs when they recall the messy curtains and counters a patient Mrs. Linkert continually cleaned up many mornings. Murray Linkert's first job (at eight) was going with his father Ed on the bread wagon pulled by their faithful horse, Harry.

Eventually, using ingredients bartered in exchange for working in his uncle's bakery, Linkert developed a preoccupation with fruitcake that became only more intense with the passing years.

Even during his 10 years as a flight instructor and Air Defense pilot with the R.C.A.F., the cake still turned up from a small kitchen oven in his apartment on base. Only able to bake four cakes at a time, he nonetheless would turn out about 400 pounds over a period of months for friends and relatives.

In between his teens and service time came several years working for one of the larger and more recognized centres of the profession in the southern part of the province. The cake formula was changed many times, reflective of his belief that "it can never be quite good enough".

In the late fifties, Murray settled his family in a beautiful, eastern section of the Haliburton Highlands, just south of Algonquin Park.

Many local teens

had summer jobs with Murray and brother Jack. One girl, who applied at age 14, was told to "come back next year", and as Murray now smirks "And darn it, she did!"

After high school, and 12 years of travel and various job experiences, she returned to the Highlands to find her former boss doggedly pursuing that same goal. She trained with him four years, long enough to convince them both that Janet Barker and Murray Linkert (as partners) made the right team to carry on the dream.

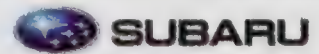


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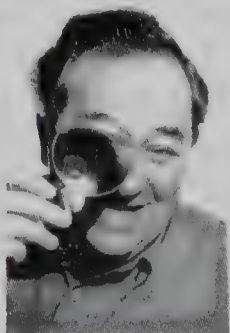
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Crime Flashback

by Max Haines

DEADLY DONNELLY

They came from County Tipperary in the mid-19th century to settle in a new land. Most made their way to Lucan, Ont., to be with their own countrymen and to carve small farms out of the wilderness. It was a tempting proposition. Land could be purchased for a mere 13 shillings an acre. The new immigrants worked hard and they played hard.

One of their number was Jim Donnelly, a small, handsome man, who preceded his wife Johannah and son James to the new land. Two years after Jim's arrival, Johannah and her little son joined him in Lucan. A year later, Johannah gave birth to a second son, William, who was born with a club foot. In the years to follow, five more boys, John, Patrick, Michael, Robert, Thomas and a lone girl, Jenny, would bless the union.

Whatever reputation Jim Donnelly was to later attain, no one has ever claimed he was a lazy man or lacked ambition. He settled on a piece of

vacant land along the Roman Line, so called for the large number of Roman Catholics whose farms faced the road. The lot Jim settled on belonged to John Grace. In 1855, Grace sold half the site to Michael Maher, who, in turn, leased it to Patrick Farrell.

Patrick Farrell wanted his land and therein lies the crunch. One must take sides when studying the saga of Jim Donnelly and his family. At every turn he could be painted either as a moody bully or a man justified in fighting for his rights and maintaining his principles. It is for the reader to decide.

The Irish had brought with them to the new world all the superstitions and feuds that had been passed down through generations back in Tipperary. Alliances were soon formed along the Roman Line. Neighbour fought neighbour. Disputes about land boundaries, livestock and rights of way were sometimes settled in court. More often, they were settled with fists outside Keefes Tavern, one of 12 watering holes which prospered in the small town.

Now, Patrick Farrell wanted the land that he legally owned. There was Jim Donnelly. He and his wife, with the help of their small boys, had worked year after year, from dawn to dusk, clearing the land until it was a functioning farm. By all that was holy, it was his property. After all, others had squatted on land with little regard for legal formalities.

Farrell rode up to the Donnelly homestead. Jim came out of the barn, which still stands, 111 years later, grim witness to the events which were to follow. Farrell gave Jim an hour to get off his property. Words were exchanged. Blows were struck.

Farrell towered over Jim and outweighed him by at least 40 lb. Despite these inequalities, Jim is reported to have given Farrell a severe beating, as Johannah and the boys cheered him on.

Farrell took his case to court. The results of the court action didn't sit well with Jim Donnelly. Farrell was awarded the south 50 acres, while Jim was given legal title to the north 50.

The two men became blood enemies. Donnelly is said to have taken a pot shot at Farrell, who lived close by his farm. The shot missed, but Farrell was convinced that his enemy had attempted to kill him. He formally charged Jim with "felonious shooting."

Just before New Year's, 1856, Jim stood in the Goderich Courthouse and swore to keep the peace for one year and not to molest Patrick Farrell.

For the next two years, Farrell would claim Jim was responsible for the string of misfortunes which befell his farm. Cow's took ill and suddenly died. Farrell's barn mysteriously caught fire. Legend has it that it was Farrell who first coined the phrase 'Black Donnellys'. As things turned out, he had good reason to be the originator of the derogatory description.

The second confrontation between Jim Donnelly and Patrick Farrell took place on June 27, 1857.

In pioneer days, it was the custom to hold bees to clear land or raise a barn. The menfolk of the community donated their labour and animals to complete the work in record time. On that fateful hot day in June, several men were engaged at a logging bee on the small property of William Maloney. Some of the men brought jugs of whisky. Others relied on Maloney to provide the sauce for the day's labour. Big Pat Farrell was there. So was Jim Donnelly.

Oxen grunted and chains were pulled taut. Sweat-stained men stripped to the waist. It was hard work, conducive to taking long deep slugs of whisky from Maloney's liberal supply.

According to reports of the events which transpired, it is certain both Farrell and Jim were drinking that day. Most likely, Farrell was intoxicated. Each time the two men came close to each other, a nasty remark would pass between them. Jim and Pat teed off against each other, but were separated before any harm was done. Jim is reported to have taunted Farrell into continuing the fight. Big Pat grabbed the nearest weapon, a big hand spike. The hand spike, a three-ft.-long piece of hardwood, was used as a lever to move large logs. It made a formidable weapon.

Haines cont'd.... pg. 19...

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Within minutes, Farrell faced Jim, who had also picked up a hand spike. Once again, cooler heads prevailed. The two adversaries were separated. It is reported that Big Pat fell to his knees, either from a push or from the effects of Maloney's whisky. At that precise moment, Jim raised his hand spike and brought it down full force on Farrell's head. A few moments later, Patrick Farrell died. The logging bee came to an abrupt halt. Ashen-faced men looked at Jim Donnelly. Jim slowly left the scene and walked home.

Two days later, an inquest was held into Farrell's death. Jim Donnelly didn't show up, but the inquest jury managed just fine without his presence. They came to the conclusion that Jim had murdered Pat Farrell and a warrant was issued for his arrest.

Jim was nowhere to be found. He had fled, but not far. Jim was hiding out in woods, which skirted the rear of the farms along the Roman Line. Jim's older boys, James, 15, Will, 12, and John, 10, brought their father provisions. Sometimes Jim donned women's clothing and managed to work his distant fields while being sought by the law.

With the coming of winter and the severe wind-swept snows that swirled along the Roman Line, Jim had much more difficulty staying at large. Often he would spend nights in a farmer's barn. There is some evidence that friends of the Donnellys allowed him to stay in their homes for short periods of time.

Still, life in hiding was no life at all. Johannah needed her man. Jim's children needed a father. On May 7, 1858, after being at large for a year, Jim Donnelly turned himself in to the local sheriff. Jim was tried, found guilty of murder and sentenced to hang.

Johannah Donnelly's nature wouldn't allow her to sit back while her husband's life was in jeopardy. She went about getting signatures on a petition for clemency. Some of the citizenry's hatred of Jim Donnelly was overcome by their sense of fairness.

The death had taken place during a drunken brawl. Had Pat Farrell's wild swings connected, it would be Farrell who would be in the shadow of the hangman's noose.

Johannah wandered far afield in search of men who knew her husband and regarded him quite differently than his enemies in Lucan. No less a personage than Attorney General John A. Macdonald, who would later become prime minister of Canada, commuted Jim's sentence from death to seven

years imprisonment.

The cold iron gates of Kingston Penitentiary closed behind Jim Donnelly. Two months later, Johannah gave birth to Jenny.

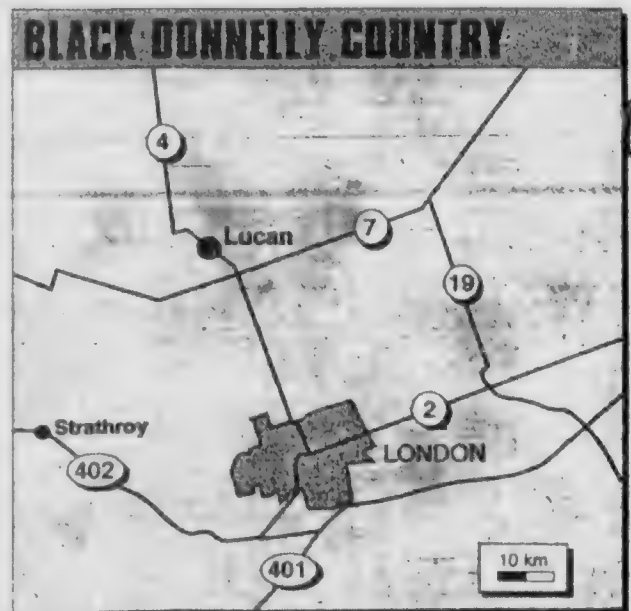
One can only imagine the plight of Johannah Donnelly, with seven boys and a baby daughter to care for and a farm to run, living amongst many who hated the Donnelly clan with a passion. It is a tribute to this remarkable woman's resolve that she was successful in running and improving the farm during her husband's absence.

Seven years passed. Despite petitions, Jim served every day of his prison term. Now 48, he returned to his family.

His oldest son, Jim, was a young man of 23.

Jim Donnelly was back in town and life in Lucan would never be the same.

Illustration: 2 drawings courtesy of Ray Fazakas Donnelly Album Brothers Bob and Tom Donnelly with a drawing of James Donnelly Sr.



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District 11 Haliburton Muskoka Semi-Annual Seniors Games Curling Mixed Bonspiel 2008

Bonspiel is open to all seniors 55 or older as of Dec. 31st 2008. It will take place at the Haliburton Curling Club on Wednesday December 17th starting at 8:30 am. Each team must have two ladies and two men.

They may curl in any order they choose. Curling sticks or aids may be used. The price per person will be \$30. (\$120. per team)

This includes: The senior games registration; A minimum of at least two six end games; Strip loin steak meat prizes for all the members of the first three teams; Ontario Senior Games Award pins and ribbons for these same participants; Everyone will also have the opportunity to take part in: Two meat draws; A share the wealth cash draw.

The top team has the first chance to take part in The Ontario Senior Games Winterfest. This takes place in Brockville and surrounding area from Tuesday February 10th- Thursday February 12th 2009. The cost of this event will be \$150.

That includes: All your curling and travel to and from the events while in the area; 7 meals, (two of these meals are banquets); 2 nights accommodation in a good quality motel. (Minimum 4 star rating); In the event that the top team can't, or is unable to go, to Winterfest, the chance; to attend then proceeds down the list in order of your team's ranking.

Please complete the application form below. The first eight complete teams will be given the opportunity to compete here in Haliburton. This form and the team lists have been sent to representatives all across Haliburton / Muskoka.

For more information please contact : Robert McIvor District 11 Coordinator. Robert McIvor - 705.754.9747.

email: district11@ontarioseniorgames.ca

The website is: <http://www.ontarioseniorgames.ca>

It's Happening in Kinmount!

by Lynne Kilby

Girls of the 1st Kinmount Unit of Sparks, Brownies & Guides are now wrapping up their Mint Cookie Campaign. Their scrumptious cookies make a great little "quick" gift and are an excellent addition to Christmas goodies at the table. To support our local girls call 488-2919.

Support Kinmount Lions Club by purchasing a delicious Christmas Cake, now available around town or contact Vic at 488-3053. As well, donations of food, unwrapped toys or gifts may be dropped off at the Lions Club's Christmas Angel Trees located at the Post Office and Kawartha Credit Union. Food donations for Christmas Hampers will also be accepted at Kinmount Freshmart and the Royal Canadian Legion.

Flu Clinics at Kinmount and District Health Centre are available Monday to Wednesday between 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Thursdays between 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. You do not have to be a patient at the clinic to receive your flu shot. There is no need for an appointment if you come at the specified time. Remember to bring your health card. Call 488-1105 for more info.

Upcoming Events:

Dec. 12 - Christmas Bingo at the Royal Canadian Legion at 6:45 p.m. Win turkeys, hams and cash prizes. Jackpot \$200 must go.

Dec. 14 - Kinmount Santa Claus Parade, Sunday, Dec. 14, 2:00 p.m. Floats gather at Kinmount Tim-Br Mart at 1:30 p.m. The parade ends at the legion where you can enjoy lunch and a visit with Santa.

Dec. 18 - Kinmount 150th Anniversary Meeting, 7:00 p.m. at Kinmount Community Centre. Bring your celebration ideas and help create more history! Everyone welcome.

Dec. 20 - Friends of the Library Book Sale, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., at the lower level of Kinmount Public Library. Who knows what treasures you may discover!

Dec. 31 - New Years Eve Dance at the Royal Canadian Legion, 8:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. Tickets cost \$12.50 per person until Dec 24th and \$15.00 per person after Dec 24th. Price includes prizes, luncheon, & favours. Bring in the New Year with D.J. Tommy Williamson. Call 488-3462.

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Scientifically Speaking

What When Where Why How



Are There Really Only Seven Colours in a Rainbow?

Everyone learns the rainbow's colours as ROYGBIV – red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet, with red at the top and violet at the bottom. But the colours don't come in seven clearly marked bands. Each colour blends slowly into the next, creating a whole array of subtle colours. And there are at least two bands of colour that your eyes can't see. Scientists with special cameras have discovered invisible infra-red light above the red band and equally invisible ultraviolet light below the violet band. So ROYGBIV should really become IROYGBIVU!



That's Life...

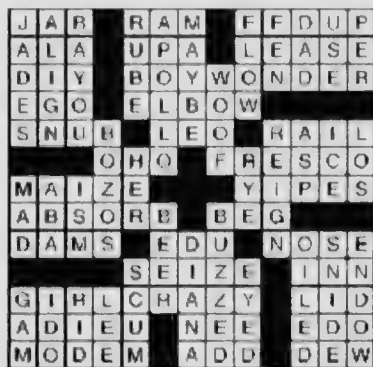
by the Bashful Comic



Women make it greater..

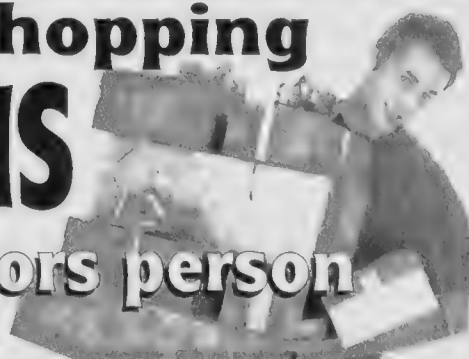
Whatever you give a woman, she will make greater. If you give her sperm, she'll give you a baby. If you give her a house, she'll give you a home.

If you give her groceries, she'll give you a meal. If you give her a smile, she'll give you her heart. She multiplies and enlarges what is given to her. So, if you give her any crap, be ready to receive a ton of S*%@.



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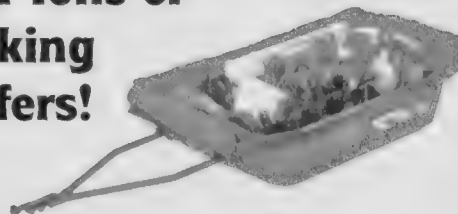
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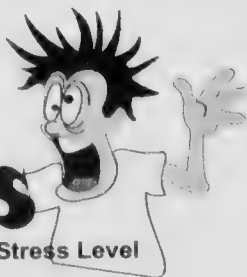


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Quick Tips To Lower That Stress Level



Sometimes it is too late.

"You cannot do a kindness too soon, for you never know how soon it will be too late." Ralph Waldo Emerson
Grief is hard enough without the additional stress of having left important things unsaid or undone. Do all you can to resist the natural inclination to take the people around you for granted. Today, before it's too late, take advantage of the opportunity to let the people closest to you know how much they mean to you.

The greatest motivational act one person can do for another is to listen.



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Reflections from SoulWinds

by Brenda Peddigrew

Living in Two Times

As I walked down the techni-colored Old Mill Road one recent morning, I noticed that my mind was occupied with a number of things that had nothing at all to do with the walk or the road. Planning for work, what so-and-so had said yesterday, how I would handle a potential conflict – these all raced around in my head like bumper cars on a circular track. Then I saw the mists rising through scarlet and gold, and I dropped out of head-time.

For the rest of that walk, I noticed the yellowing milkweed getting its seed pods ready, and a warbler's song when it stopped on a branch on its long journey, and the stately reassuring bulrushes like marshy sentinels. I felt the sun dispersing the mists and how something cold inside me dispersed with the sun's warmth also. I saw a brown hare standing still as a statue not 10 feet from where I passed, and a shuffling groundhog crossing the road a hundred feet ahead of me. I smelled the pine and balsam fir, wafting on some still-warm air currents.

Suddenly, in the midst of that heavenly quiet, I realized that time and the concerns of time had drifted away. The fullness of now – and all that it opened out into – was all, all that filled me. I was just one other of Nature's cyclical presences, privileged to witness the ordinary community, to really see it, that first community to claim me as its own. I was born from the earth and into her body I would return. There was a joy and peace, a sense of rightness, with this thought.

The vast and infinite time of that walk shifted back in less than a second when I arrived back home. I had mistakenly recorded the wrong time for one of my clients to see me, and he was waiting in the garden, pacing. Time squeezed back like an accordion, and the minuteness of appointment times, meal times, work time, sleep time crowded out the timelessness of the morning walk.

What that morning taught me, by such sharp and sudden contrast, was that I live in two times, and – I suspect – so do we all: the expansive, timeless time of the present moment, and the contracted, small and tight time of interacting with the world that is necessary for function and task. Each is as important as the other, and if I spend too much time in one – contracted time, for example – I'm likely to become tight and small in my own view of the world. It's then that I go out, into the wide beauty of the natural world, and offer myself for its transforming, so as not to get lost.

Every day I try to live deliberately in two times.

try this: Go outside and try to be present wherever you are. Allow the concerns of your mind to go on a small vacation, and see through your senses alone what is in that moment.

NO TOYING AROUND

Get A New Read on Gift-Giving By Putting Books Under the Tree This Year

Parents and caregivers looking for the perfect holiday gift for their children should consider turning a new page on their usual shopping habits this year.

Books are a worthwhile alternative to toys and electronic games as a present for a young, pre-school child, says Zinda Harper, a Family Health Nurse with the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit.

"Studies show sharing books with newborns and babies is a good way to boost their love of language," Harper says. "Reading is also ideal for adults and children to bond and enjoy an activity together."

According to the local Health Unit, promoting a love for reading helps with a child's speech and language development, which is critical for communicating with others and succeeding at school and in life. If that's not enough reason to put a book or two under the Christmas tree, Harper sees an added bonus.

"Books do not require batteries like most other toys," she notes. "Books generate their own power: a positive force for both child and parent."

What makes for a good book to give as a present? Harper says the story should be appropriate for the child's age level. Appropriate children's books provide a "rich experience" that pays off for preschoolers by helping them expand their vocabulary, visual attention, conversation skills and listening ability, she says. Books can also take children away to new lands and experiences they haven't encountered before, she adds.

For younger children, board books that can be chewed are not recommended. A better choice is books with interactive features such as holes or flaps for lifting that hold the attention of a child for a longer period of time. Harper also suggests choosing books that have a simple or repetitive tone without a lot of text.

If parents are wondering how to read a book with a child, Harper suggests they take the cue from their children.

"Let your child choose the books and pages to read," she says. "Parents should not get exasperated if the child flips back and forth or all over the book."

Make reading an interactive experience, Harper advises. One way is for parents to let their child describe pictures and tell the story to them. If a child is just saying sounds, the parent should imitate the sounds and provide new sounds and words for the child to imitate. Another way to read is having the parent tell the story, but leave out words or parts of the sentence so the child can fill in the blanks.

Most importantly, Harper says, parents need to show delight and enthusiasm as they read books with their children so the younger

generation will embrace reading too.

While reading, talking, listening and playing with a child all help to develop language skills, Harper encourages parents to watch out for potential problems as well. Approximately one in 10 Ontario children need help developing normal speech and language skills.

The Ontario government has established speech and language milestones for children up to the age of five years. These milestones, available at www.kidtalk.on.ca, can help parents assess and improve a child's communication ability.

The District Preschool Speech and Language Program also exists to help parents in the City of Kawartha Lakes, Haliburton County, Northumberland County and Peterborough County access speech and language services for pre-schoolers. Parents can call the

Health Unit toll-free at 1-866-888-4577 with their questions and concerns, or to have their child's speech skills screened over the phone. Referrals can also be made to the Five Counties' Children Centre for speech and language therapy.

In Harper's mind, if local parents want to get a new read on the usual holiday gift-giving for children, the best place to start is at a bookstore.





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One of Haliburton's Hottest Emerging Artists

Smashing Steel With the Best of Them, Turning Scraps Into Artwork

By Mark Arike

When you ask 23-year old artist Kathleen Atkinson-Hindle how she ended up in Haliburton County, her full-length answer could probably be published in a short story.

"I jumped on a freight train from Montreal in the middle of university and ran away," she says of her journey that began five years ago.

Those who don't know Kathleen might get the wrong first impression. Before engaging in a conversation with the charismatic, sociable blonde, some may think she's just another attention-seeking, dainty diva. That, however, couldn't be further from the truth.

In fact, Kathleen is one of the many young, emerging artists who's heating things up in the County. With a hammer in hand and her grandfather's forge from the 1900's, she seems to have the natural ability to transform scrap metals (that are commonly found in the garbage dump) into spectacular, thought-evoking pieces. She also creates jewelry at her home studio near Eagle Lake.

Kathleen spent her childhood years growing up in Wakefield, Quebec, on what she refers to as a "hippie commune."

"I grew up in a beautiful utopia," she recalls. "I was allowed to play and create since I was little. I was allowed to be an artist and was surrounded by people who were, so I was taught great things."

Though her parents raised her, the small community she was in helped to mold the person she is today.

"They definitely taught me to see beauty, embrace it and dance with it, so that's what I did!"

But before becoming a blacksmith and jeweler, she thought that

pursuing a traditional university education would lead her down the right path.

"My mother is almost 65, so I thought that I would be able to support her after getting an education."

In 2002 she signed-up to study human sciences at Concordia University in Montreal. In her second year, she discovered that she'd had enough and that it was time to break away from the regular routine.

Without much of a plan in mind, she hopped on a freight train - without informing anyone of her departure - in an effort to find the change that she was looking for.

"I didn't want to come home because I would have been admitting that jumping on a freight train in the middle of the night and leaving my life behind was a stupid thing to do. So, I refused to come home."

She landed in Calgary and stayed there for a period of time.

Her mom, Denise, soon got a hold of Kathleen and was armed with a plan that would bring her to Haliburton.

"I told her that I wasn't going to come back and she said, 'That's ok, but I want to see you so I'm buying a plane ticket home for one day and then you can fly right back. Meet me in Haliburton.' So I came to Haliburton and was mom

was like, 'isn't this a nice little town? Oh, by the way, I signed you up to the jewelry essentials program at Fleming College and you got accepted.'"

Kathleen was then given two options. Accept the offer or go back to Calgary (if she desired). She swiftly responded by saying, "Haliburton is fine! I'll stay here."

While learning how to make jewelry at Fleming's the School of the Arts, one teacher's comment played a key role in her decision to enter the blacksmithing program.

"The teacher said, 'you can't do jewelry like that. It's much too sculptural.' And I thought, 'Yes I can. I can do whatever I want.'"

On her first day of class in the blacksmithing program, Atkinson was intimidated when she was greeted by a group of burly men. It wasn't long, however, until she became used to her surroundings.



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Kathleen cont'd... pg. 25...

Kathleen Atkinson-Hindle:

... from pg. 24

"When I first got there I was late and I was frazzled, not knowing what the hell to expect" she explains. "When I got there, there were 16 men standing there looking at me like I was only going to last a day. I'm really glad that they gave me that look because otherwise I probably only would have lasted a day. They thought that, but I was like, 'I'm going to do this!' I did, but couldn't move my hand for two weeks in the beginning. Then I was strong and I could do it."

Kathleen graduated in 2006 and headed back to Montreal to finish off the studies she abandoned in Montreal.

"I really hated university a lot," she says.

Her mother advised her to go back to honing her skills as an artist because she knew it was her daughter's passion.

And it seems as if mom did know best. Kathleen became a resident of Haliburton County over a year ago. She doesn't regret the move and admits she's been able to easily adapt to a community that embraces the arts and is supportive of those who are emerging onto the creative scene.

"There's a sense of community here," she says. "There's a good enough mixture of wonderful growing arts scene to keep it interesting. I find the longer that I'm here, the more cool people there are who come out of the woodwork."

This past summer, Kathleen worked at the Carole Finn Gallery in Minden (no longer in existence). The position provided her with several responsibilities including: setting up exhibits, communicating with artists and accounting.

"I started there because I was half-heartedly looking for a job," she explains. "It was a really awesome experience because I got to know Carol. She pretty much spearheaded the whole arts community here."

She finished working at the gallery in October when it closed.

Also this summer, she had the unique opportunity to get the chance to create a piece of artwork for the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) in Toronto. It was something she says she stumbled upon.

"It was a lucky occurrence. I met this guy on a bus when I was going to the theatre in Ottawa with my girlfriends. On the bus I was telling a story about this pet rat in my car when all of a sudden this guy turned around to me and said, 'I used to have all sorts of rats in my house.' Then he went on about how he'd pull out a flute to play music for them! I thought this guy is crazy, but I like it!"

That man turned out to be Phil Sarazen, a metalsmith in Toronto. He was one of the people who came up with the idea to have 12 bike racks, based on pieces in the museum, installed along Queens Park Crescent.

That bus ride would turn out to pay off. Sarazen told Kathleen to send him more information about herself, after which time he determined that she would be perfect for the task at hand.

For Atkinson, it was an honour to be chosen as one of the 12 artists who would go on to make a commissioned piece for the ROM.

"What an awesome thing to have on your resume! It was a big ego boost...I was the only person from outside of the Greater Toronto Area

"I want women to come to my studio and smash steel! It doesn't matter whether they're going to be a blacksmith or not. There's beauty and power in it."



(GTA) who was invited to be a part of it."

The piece resembles a fish blended in with a dragon, which was inspired by an emperor's tomb sculpture in the museum. The rack ended up weighing between 500-600-lbs.

Now that Kathleen is completely self-employed (which is how she wants it to be), her goal is to put all of her energy into her artwork. She recently became a member of The Art Hive and was the recipient of group's Emerging Artist Scholarship, made available by Fay & Associates.

This winter, she'll be busy creating sculptural art at her studio and promoting her work in the community.

"I want to get my work and my life at a pace where I can just be making beautiful things."

She's also extending an invite out to women who are interested in trying out blacksmithing for themselves.

"I want women to come to my studio and smash steel! It doesn't matter whether they're going to be a blacksmith or not. There's beauty and power in it."

So drop by The Art Hive on Hwy 118 in Camarvon to check out some of Kathleen's pieces or send her an email at Fair_moans@hotmail.com for more information.



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Title Fraud

with Susan Lee

To be able to keep my CFP (Certified Financial Planning) accreditation I am required to complete education credits annually. Part of my current course is about fraud of all kinds but I thought I would share some of the information around fraud and property owners.

Title Fraud

Title fraud involves the fraudulent transfer of title of a property. The most vulnerable homeowners are those owning rental properties or who have high value properties with no existing mortgage. Since approximately fifty percent of Canadians who own property are mortgage free, the potential losses are significant.

The most common form of title fraud involves identity theft and impersonation. The criminal will create false documents and present himself as the legitimate owner of the property. He will use this process either to transfer the property to himself and then resell it to a third party or use the real homeowner's identity to obtain mortgage financing and abscond with the funds.

In 2006 there were 7,778 reported cases of identity theft in Canada, representing over sixteen million dollars in claims with Ontario having 3,353 of the claimants valued at over seven million dollars. An Ontario case that was decided upon by a Court in December 2007 saw a ninety-year-old homeowner defrauded of his rental property. He leased this property to a couple who then fraudulently created a Power of Attorney. They told the owner that they were moving, but wanted to honor the lease by sub-leasing to another couple. They then used this Power of Attorney to sell the property to another couple who were not involved in the fraud. A lender provided the purchasing couple with a mortgage. Once the fraud was uncovered, the property eventually transferred back to the original homeowner's name but the lender refused to discharge the mortgage, stating that the mortgage was valid since, although the sale was fraudulent, the mortgage transaction was not. Luckily for the home owner the Courts ruled that the mortgage transaction and the purchase were part of the same transaction and therefore part of the same fraud. The court indicated that the lender should have done more due diligence in the transaction. It is my understanding that the homeowner is still fighting to have his legal fees that he had to pay to rectify the situation refunded to him.

Since 1990 in Canada an insurance product called Title insurance has been available. Policies are most often taken out at the time of purchase or when using the property for security with a lender, but it can be purchased anytime.

Title insurance covers several risk such as an error in the Survey but it also covers fraud and forgery (including title theft, the registration of a fraudulent mortgage, etc). If the home owner in the above true story had had title insurance it would have aided him in defending his position in court and paying the related costs of rectifying the title, or by potentially compensating the home owner for the loss. If you are a homeowner you can buy this one time insurance anytime. My information in this article is general in nature and I strongly recommend contacting your lawyer to get the full details of this product.

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It's the Law

It's the Law

An old law in Utah states that the height of a woman's high heels cannot be over one and a half inches.



In Bhutan, people can fish in streams and rivers, but by law they must toss back all that they catch!

A sign on the Greenriver Bridge in Guiford, Vermont, warned of a two-dollar fine issued to anyone who passed through the bridge at a speed faster than a walk!



At one time in Owenboro, Kentucky, a woman could only buy a hat if her husband tried it on first!

Trivia Quiz

1. LANGUAGE: What is a diacritical mark?
2. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What kind of creature is an ocelot?
3. AD SLOGANS: What soft drink was known in the 1970s as "The Uncola"?
4. TRANSPORTATION: What kind of ship is a dhow?
5. GEOGRAPHY: Where was the ancient kingdom of Northumbria located?
6. FASHION: What is a glengarry?
7. RELIGION: Who was John the Baptist's father?
8. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Who was the first American-born citizen to be canonized by the Catholic Church?
9. LITERATURE: Who is the author of "Le Morte D'Arthur"?
10. TELEVISION: Who played the character of "Captain Kangaroo" in the TV series?

Answers

1. A mark added to a letter that indicates a different pronunciation
2. Wildcat
3. 7-Up
4. Traditional Arabic sail- ing vessel
5. Northeast England.
6. Woolen cap of Scottish origin
7. Zacharias
8. Elizabeth Ann Seton
9. Sir Thomas Malory
10. Bob Keeshan

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Categories of Rights of Way

In Ontario, there are four categories of easements, commonly called rights of way, which may arise in land disputes: (1) express rights of way; (2) prescriptive rights of way; (3) implied rights of way; and (4) equitable rights of way. You may find yourself seeking legal advice in regard to one or more these categories of rights of way when neighbourly friendliness is no longer there. Often, this occurs in the County of Haliburton when there is a change of ownership of the user of the right of way or of the owner of the land upon which the right of way travels.

Express rights of way are really a contract between the owner of the land and the user of the right of way. Deeded rights of way are an example. These rights of way are often permanent in nature for cottage access but they may also be temporary in nature. An example is access over property to an antenna tower for cell phone service so long as the tower is there. This type of express right of way may be deemed abandoned or terminated once the antenna is removed from the land.

Prescriptive rights of way are rights of way created by actual use over a period of 20 years. These rights of way must be established by court order and they are hard to establish, partly because 20 years of evidence is not easy to find. Previous owners or users may have moved to another province or, even to the celestial climes where they cannot return to give evidence. But once established, they operate like express rights of way. One difficulty with these rights of way is whether they can increase in use from summer season use to four seasons use, as is now happening in the County with cottage owners moving here permanently.

Implied rights of way and equitable rights of way are rarer categories of rights of way. The implied type occurs when it is clear that there is an intention between the parties to create a right of way but it never gets created. Or the right of way will be implied when the right of way is one "of necessity," that is, you need to get from point A to point B. The equitable type arises where it would not be fair to allow the owner of the land to deny the right of way. For example, the intended user is encouraged to spend money on the reasonable belief that he or she will be granted a right of way by the owner.

In the next column, I will be talking about the state of civil litigation.

Learn A



Disabuse

\di-se-byuz\ v: to free from error, fallacy, or misconception

The results of the poll – that 40% of Americans read at least 10 books a year – disabused us of the notion that the American public is too busy to read.

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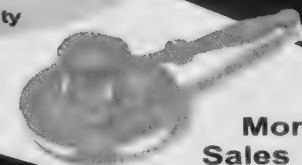
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Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



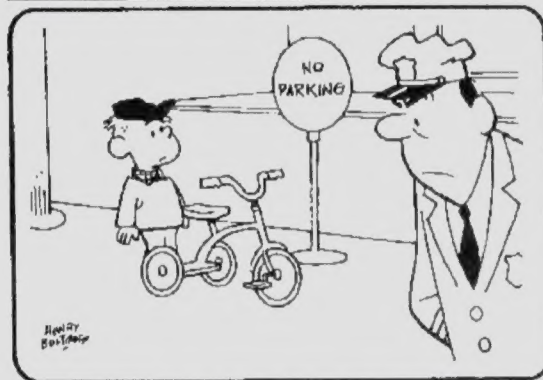
Bad Predictions

Can I Take That Back Now....

Read my lips: NO NEW TAXES.
George Bush, 1988.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINGOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Wheels have spokes. A boy's shirt is black. Uniform stripes are missing. 6 bricks are added to building.

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There were 7 sams in the last issue. They were in the
following ads: Community Care, Cordell Carpet, Hali-
mar Resort, Minden Subaru, Wyjad Fleming Associ-
ates, Royal Homes, Myers Chimney

The Winner of last issue's
spot Sam contest is: Johnny
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Fleming College Is Yours to Discover

There's Still Time to Sign-Up for Programs in January, 2009

Thinking about upgrading your academic skills or trying something completely new? Well, you won't have to look too far because the Fleming College campus in Haliburton has a bunch of programs starting in the New Year (part-time to full-time) that may tickle your fancy.

In Haliburton, you'll find several areas of study offered. Some of which include glassblowing, fibre arts, horticultural studies, photo art and more.

Many programs at the campus allow you to bring out your truly creative side. One of these hands-on programs is jewellery essentials.

According to Fleming's website, "the fabrication of a piece of jewellery engages every element of the design and creative process. It embodies the technology, the materials, and the artist's message in a work that can be easily realized in time and place."

In this 14-week intensive format program that starts on Jan. 12, 2009, you'll learn all about studies in design, drawing and history for jewellers.

In addition to studies in design, drawing, and history for jewellers, these courses provide a strong foundation for fabrication, chain making, surface decoration, casting, forming, stone setting, as well as marketing and portfolio development.

Graduates of this program may choose to continue to pursue a career by taking further advanced studies, work as a studio artist to continue to develop their talents, become a teacher or work in the art world, in a gallery, a museum or art/craft retail operation.

Or are you interested in creating pieces that are bigger and come to life in their 3-D form? Then the sculpture certificate program, starting this winter, might be up your alley.

During this 14-week immersion program, you'll learn a variety of processes that will assist you to make your artwork convey a message. Through basic manipulation of materials, students will learn the tools and techniques demanded by both additive and subtractive processes using metal, clay, recycled materials, stone, and wood in carving, modeling, casting and building. This program also addresses professional practices in presentation, business, and marketing to develop individual student plans for exhibiting and selling work in different venues.

After successfully graduating, students can pursue further studies or explore exhibit, freelance or teaching career opportunities.

For those looking to heat things up and create magnificent works out of glass, the 14-week intensive glassblowing program will begin on Jan. 12, 2009.

Whether you're at the amateur or intermediate skill level, this program will allow you explore the process in the design and fabrication of art glass. Since safety comes first, particular attention is given to the set up and safe operation of studio equipment.

Design, colour theory, drawing and art history for glass artists will provide a strong foundation for glassblowing, cold working techniques, colour applications, mould making for the glassblower and designing for production glass. Graduates will be well prepared for further, more specialized studies in glass, as well as for apprenticeship opportunities.

This course combines lecture and hands-on practical exercises during 32.5 hours of in-class studies in addition to 15 hours of scheduled independent studies studio time.

On top of offering a wide variety of courses that challenge creative individuals, the campus is located in a visually appealing location just a few kilometres outside of the Village of Haliburton and overlooks Head Lake on land donated by the municipality.

The Haliburton campus was launched in October of 2004 and was constructed with a \$5.5 million grant from the province's SuperBuild fund and \$2.5 million in donations from businesses and individuals.

The campus houses three spacious art studios, six classrooms, a library and a campus store.

For more information about the campus, all the programs available in the upcoming year and support services available visit www.flemingc.on.ca.

Strange BUT TRUE

It was American humorist, satirist, lecturer and author Samuel Langhorne Clemens -- better known today as Mark Twain -- who made the following sage observation: "In certain trying circumstances, urgent circumstances, desperate circumstances, profanity furnishes a relief denied often to prayer."

If you're planning a trip to North Carolina in June, try to make it to the small town of Spivey's Corner for the annual Hollierin' Contest. If you'd like to participate but are worried about straining your vocal cords, you can always enter the conch-blowing contest instead of one that involves actual yelling.

Woody Allen is multitalented: He is a director, an author, a comedian, a playwright and an actor. In light of his successful careers, some might be surprised to learn that in college he received an F in English and a C in film production, then flunked out of New York University for poor attendance.

On the Pacific Island of Fiji, tattoos are considered to be beautiful enhancements to the body, and a traditional bride is expected to get tattooed before the wedding ceremony takes place.

If you're like the average American, your Thanksgiving meal contains a whopping 3,000 calories. If you were to try to walk that off, you'd have to trek a total of 30 miles before you were finished.

You probably won't be surprised to learn that the word "surreptitious" comes from the Latin words meaning "snatch secretly."

If you're a parent, you probably already know this: A recent poll shows that the favorite food of kids between the ages of 3 and 11, regardless of whether it's for lunch or dinner, is pizza.

Thought for the Day: "Politics is not the art of the possible. It consists in choosing between the disastrous and the unpalatable." -- John Kenneth Galbraith

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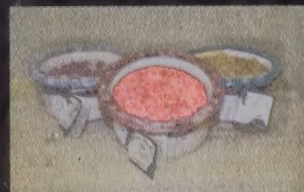


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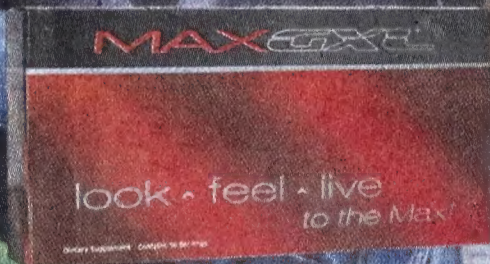
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